

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 BOMBAY 02929 171203Z

17

ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDE-00 OES-06 AID-05 IO-13

ACDA-07 NRC-05 JUSE-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 DODE-00 FEA-01 /077 W

----- 005982

P R 171129Z NOV 76

FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6876

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOMBAY 2929

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENGR

SUBJ: TARAPUR SPENT FUEL STORAGE FACILITIES

REF: STATE 280448

1. MATTERS RELATING TO THE REPROCESSING PLANT AT TARAPUR HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SENSITIVE AND THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL INDICATIONS SINCE THE AMERICAN ELECTION THAT CHAIRMAN SETHNA HAS CONCLUDED HE MUST BE CAUTIOUS IN DISCUSSIONS ON FUTURE NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH THE US WHILE THE GOI TAKES A CLOSER READING ON THE INTENTIONS OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THERE WILL BE A COMPLETE HALT IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS BUT RATHER THAT THE CAUTIOUS VIEW WHICH HAS ALWAYS EXISTED IN A PART OF THE GOI WILL PREVAIL FOR THE TIME BEING. I BELIEVE THAT SETHNA HIMSELF RECOGNIZES THAT MOMENTUM ON THE BUY-BACK OPTION IS ESSENTIAL FOR MANY REASONS, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE UPCOMING EXHAUSTION OF STORAGE SPACE, AND HE WOULD LIKE TO DO WHATEVER CAN BE DONE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT INDIA REMAINS COOPERATIVE IN RESOLVING CURRENT PROBLEMS. NEVERTHELESS, THE CONSTRAINTS ON HIM INDICATE PROGRESS IS LIKELY TO BE A STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS FOR NEXT TWO MONTHS.

2. IN THIS ATMOSPHERE WE WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE OUR TACTICS MORE CAREFULLY THAN EVER AND PROBABLY WORK DIRECTLY WITH SETHNA HIMSELF

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOMBAY 02929 171203Z

ON MOST OCCASIONS. WHILE THIS MAY CAUSE SHORT-TERM DELAYS, IT ALMOST CERTAINLY IS THE ONLY WAY IN WHICH WE CAN EXPECT ANY

PROGRESS AT ALL DURING THIS TRANSITION PERIOD.

3. THE CURRENT PROBLEM IS THAT SETHNA IS OUT OF BOMBAY FOR REMAINDER THIS WEEK, AND I AM MOST HESITANT TO ADVANCE THE REQUEST IN REFTEL FOR DATA ON THE REPROCESSING PLANT STORAGE POOL TO ANYONE ELSE AT THE IAEC IN HIS ABSENCE. IN MY VIEW IT WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY LEAD TO THE ERECTION OF BARRIERS AND AT THE VERY LEAST TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SERIES OF QUID PRO QUOS BEFORE HIS ASSOCIATES WOULD RECOMMEND RELEASE OF THE INFORMATION WE WEEK. THEREFORE, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD WAIT UNTIL SETHNA'S RETURN NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS THIS REQUEST. IN FACT I BELIEVE IT IS SUFFICIENTLY SENSITIVE THAT IT SHOULD AWAIT MY RETURN NEXT WEDNESDAY FROM MY INITIAL OFFICIAL CALL IN GOA; BUT IF WASHINGTON'S NEED IS URGENT DPO ROSENTHAL COULD PROBABLY ARRANGE TO SEE SETHNA ON MONDAY. PLEASE ADVISE DEPARTMENT'S PREFERENCES.

4. CONGEN URGES THAT ALL MESSAGES RELATING TO THE BUY-BACK ISSUE OR THE FUEL STORAGE PROBLEMS BE CLASSIFIED.
COURTNEY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, TARAPUR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BOMBAY02929
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760428-0886
From: BOMBAY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761141/aaaabjfy.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ERDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 280448
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 OCT 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <15 JUN 2004 by buchant0, 3.4.X6>; RELEASED <12 OCT 2004 by vogelfj>; APPROVED <02 NOV 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TARAPUR SPENT FUEL STORAGE FACILITIES
TAGS: ENRG, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006